

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 6, 1981

SECRET

MEMORANDUM

TO

CIA/SA/NPI -

FROM

INR/PMA/NS - Galen Fox

SUBJECT

China As A Nuclear Exporter

The Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs (EA) is reviewing a number of issues related to China. The apparent emergence of China as a nuclear exporter is one area of increasing concern, particularly as it affects US non-proliferation efforts internationally. EA has requested an Intelligence Community analysis of, among other topics, China's role as a nuclear exporter. Of particular interest is the nature of Chinese exports -what materials are involved, what is the volume of these exports, who are the middlemen/brokers, and what countries are the ultimate recipients. It would be useful to have as complete an estimate as possible of China's present production capacity in heavy water, uranium -- natural and enriched, calcium metal and other relevant nuclear commodities, as well as a projection of China's potential as a supplier of such materials over the next five years.

We would like the assistance of your staff in preparing such an assessment for EA. A draft addressing the points enumerated above is requested by COB Friday, May 22, if possible.

SECRET RDS (5/6/91)

State Dept. review completed.

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